

April 26, 1979

LB 262

SPEAKER MARVEL PRESIDING

SPEAKER MARVEL: Record.

CLERK: Quorum present, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: You had some items to read in.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator DeCamp asks unanimous consent to print amendments to LB 382.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Before we begin the motion #9, it's my privilege in the south balcony to introduce from Senator Cope's district twenty-seven Buffalo County Federation of Republican Women from Buffalo County with Carol Cope the President. Would you please raise your hands so we can say good afternoon? There are two ladies down underneath the south balcony too. Now we should be ready for motion #9 which has to do with LB 262. Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President, I would waive my opening and reserve the time for closing. I'll make all my comments on closing and I would hope that we wouldn't spend too much time on this.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is to place LB 262 on General File pursuant to Rule 3, Section 10. The Chair recognizes Senator Chambers and then Senator Simon. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, this is one of the most serious issues that will come before the Legislature, and in the same way that some other issues were brought to the floor from committees, I'm asking that this one be brought before the Legislature for discussion. Now in the Judiciary Committee where this bill was heard, there was never a motion or an attempt to kill the bill. It was recognized by the various members how important the issue was, and if you want to call that a concession keeping the bill alive, then I think that will indicate that there is a feeling even among those who are opposed to the abolition of the death penalty, there is a feeling about the importance of the issue and that it should be given an opportunity to be heard. The opportunity that we have is to try to raise it from committee with twenty-five votes. I've talked to a number of you and I've told you that I would say in my presentation that many of the votes that are offered should be interpreted at this point as an effort to bring the bill before the Legislature so that it can be discussed. It then becomes my responsibility